

REMARKS

Applicants kindly thank the Examiner for taking the time on August 25, 2010 to discuss this case with Applicants' undersigned representative, Dr. Mutimer, and Dr. Goodchild. Further to that conversation and at the request of the Examiner, the attached references describe the guidelines of the International Association for the Study of Pain (IASP) for evaluating and treating neuropathic pain (NP).

Dworkin *et al.* provide the most up-to-date guidelines for managing NP, which were compiled under the auspices of the IASP. The document titled "Pharmacologic Management of Neuropathic Pain: Evidence-Based Recommendations" (referred to as "NP Guidelines") was obtained from the web-site www.guidelinecentral.com, and cites to earlier, related versions of Dworkin *et al.*

Applicants believe these references show that unless appropriately diagnosed, NP is not necessarily present in any given patient, such as the cancer patients of Nickel *et al.* For example, Dworkin *et al.* state at page 239 that "[a]ppropriate diagnosis and assessment are *critical* to the successful treatment of NP" (*see* also the Table at page 7 of the NP Guidelines).

Applicants believe that all of the claims in the application are allowable. Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Application No. 10/574,438
Further Reply to Office Action dated June 4, 2010

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Respectfully submitted,
SEED Intellectual Property Law Group PLLC

/William T. Christiansen/
William T. Christiansen, Ph.D.
Registration No. 44,614

WTC:MER:jto

Attachments:

Dworkin *et al.*, *Pain*. 132:237-251, 2007
Pharmacologic Management of Neuropathic Pain: Evidence-Based Recommendations

701 Fifth Avenue, Suite 5400
Seattle, Washington 98104
Phone: (206) 622-4900
Fax: (206) 682-6031

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